

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 06758 120958Z

15
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 CCO-00 /011 W
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O 120736Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9327

UNCLAS KABUL 6758

NEA/PAB ONLY, AUSTRIAN FROM CURRAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, AF
SUBJ: DONNA WILKER, EXIT VISA DISPUTE

REF: A. STATE 224639; B. KABUL 6673 C. KABUL 6715

SUMMARY: PER DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS, EMBASSY NOW ASSISTING
AMCIT WHO WAS DELINQUENT IN PAYING BILL TO U.S. GOVERNMENT
TO LEAVE AFGHANISTAN. DEPARTMENT'S DECISION CREATES PROBLEMS
FOR OPERATION OF U.S. MISSION. END SUMMARY.

1. IN VIEW L'S RESPONSE, AFGHAN-AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL
COMMISSION (AFAMEC) PROCEEDING TO ISSUE LETTER TO FOREIGN
MINISTRY TO ALLOW MS. DONNA WILKER TO OBTAIN EXIT VISA WITH
U.S. MISSION ASSISTANCE.

2. HOWEVER, THIS CASE AND
DEPARTMENT'S DECISION RAISE SOME
SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR THIS MISSION AND I WANT TO GO OVER IT
WITH YOU IN THIS CHANNEL. WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND
WHY MS. WILKER, WHO WAS A PART OF THE OFFICIAL AMERICAN
COMMUNITY AND ACCEPTED SUPPORT FROM U.S. MISSION, NOW IS NOT
PUT UNDER SOME PRESSURE TO HONOR HER OBLIGATION. CASE HAS
ATTRACTED WIDE NOTICE AND NOW PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY
(U.S. TAXPAYERS) HERE ARE INDIGNANT AT THIS FLOUTING OF A
RESPONSIBILITY. IN AN EXTREMELY ISOLATED AND UNHEALTHY
ENVIRONMENT WE TAKE CARE OF MANY EMERGENCIES BECAUSE OF
LACK OF ANY ADEQUATE AFGHAN MEDICAL FACILITIES. IF ONE PERSON
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DOES NOT PAY OR LIVE UP TO OBLIGATIONS IN COMMUNITY, WHAT

RECOURSE DO WE HAVE IN REQUIRING OTHERS TO HONOR OBLIGATIONS?

3. PARENTHETICALLY, THERE WERE MANY CHARGES MADE BY MS. WILKER IN KABUL 6715 WHICH ARE FALSE. IT WAS NOT THE EMBASSY, BUT AFAMEC WHICH OBTAINED HER RESIDENCE VISA AND WHICH CONSEQUENTLY WILL OBTAIN HER EXIT VISA. THE EMBASSY HAS NEVER PROVIDED RESIDENCE VISA SERVICES FOR AFAMEC AFFILIATED PEOPLE AND DID NOT OBTAIN MS. WILKER'S CURRENT RESIDENCE VISA. MS. WILKER HAS VERBALLY ACKNOWLEDGED FINANCIAL OBLIGATION, BUT REFUSES TO PAY IT. AMERICAN CENTER DIRECTOR GEHLE HAS NEVER, REPEAT NEVER, BEEN IN POSSESSION OF HER PASSPORT, BUT ONLY MADE INQUIRY INTO POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING IT PENDING PAYMENT. EMBASSY REFUSED TO PERMIT CONSIDERATION OF HOLDING A U.S. CITIZEN'S PASSPORT QUOTE HOSTAGE UNQUOTE.

4. REASON WE DON'T WANT TO CONTINUE DEBATE IN A BROADER CHANNEL IN WASHINGTON IS CONCERN WE HAVE THAT THE DISPENSARY OPERATION HERE WILL BE JEOPARDIZED. HOWEVER, WE WILL BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR IDEAS AS TO WAYS WE CAN COPE WITH A TRICKY SITUATION.

5. FEEL FREE TO SHOW THIS CABLE TO OTHER ELEMENTS IF IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO YOU AND US.

6. BEST REGARDS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXIT VISAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KABUL06758
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760344-0248
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760969/aaaacggy.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 76 STATE 224639, 76 KABUL 6673
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vandyklc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2004 by schaeafaj>; APPROVED <18 AUG 2004 by vandyklc>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DONNA WILKER, EXIT VISA DISPUTE
TAGS: CASC, AF, (WILKER, DONNA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006